



3713

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Joseph R. Hedrick, *et al.*

Attorney Docket No.: IGT1P060/P-568

Application No.: 09/921,489

Examiner: Kim T. Nguyen

Filed: August 3, 2001

Group: 3713

Title: PLAYER TRACKING COMMUNICATION  
MECHANISMS IN A GAMING MACHINE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail on February 9, 2004 in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signed: Tomika Thomas  
Tomika Thomas

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BEFORE FINAL ACTION OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE  
(37 CFR §§ 1.56 AND 1.97(c))**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, a copy of which is attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit this reference in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make this citation of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that this reference indeed constitutes prior art.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, or after three months of the filing date of this application, whichever event occurred last, but it is believed before the mailing date of either: (i) a final action under §1.113 or (ii) a notice of allowance under §1.311, whichever occurs first.

Accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement is

- ☒ a statement as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e); or  
☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

**[37 CFR §1.97(e) Statement, if relied upon]**

The undersigned hereby states:

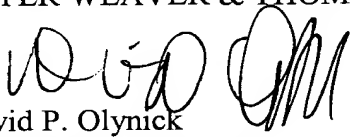
- ☒ that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application no more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or  
☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Statement Under 37 CFR §1.704(d)

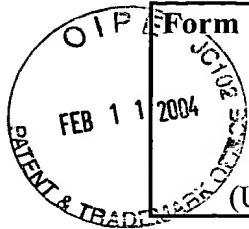
Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application; this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

If it is determined that any additional fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 500388 (Order No. IGT1P060).

Respectfully submitted,  
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<b>Form 1449 (Modified)</b>  <b>Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant</b>  (Use Several Sheets if Necessary)		<b>Atty Docket No.</b> IGT1P060/P-568  <b>Applicant:</b> Joseph R. Hedrick, <i>et al.</i>  <b>Filing Date</b> August 3, 2001	<b>Application No.:</b> 09/921,489   <b>Group</b> 3713
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#### U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Patent No.	Date	Patentee	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date
	1A	5,851,149	12/22/98	Xidos, <i>et al.</i>			8/4/95

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#### Foreign Patent or Published Foreign Patent Application

Examiner Initial	No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Sub-class	Translation	
							Yes	No
	1B	WO0217251	28.02.2002	PCT			X	
	2B	WO0224288	28.03.2002	PCT			X	

#### Other Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Author, Title, Date, Place (e.g. Journal) of Publication
Examiner		Date Considered

Examiner: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.